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DEPARTMENT OF VISITING NURSING AND SOCIAL WELFARE



IN CHARGE OF

EDNA L. FOLEY, R.N.

[To keep this department up-to-date and helpfully interesting, nurses in social work of every description and superintendents of district nursing associations are asked to put the address of its editor—104 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago—on their mailing files for items, clippings, and annual reports.]

NEW YORK.—Opportunities for practical training in public health nursing have never been sufficient to meet the demand. The time seems to have passed when a woman can hope to successfully enter this field without some special preparation, and many of our readers will be interested in the announcement of the Henry Street Settlement which offers a three months' course in public health nursing. A small salary is paid, but living expenses are not provided.

Nurses coming for this course are taken on the first of October, January, and April. Each is assigned to one of the regular Settlement districts, for which she becomes directly responsible. She is expected to assume the nursing of the patients in her district with the same care and enthusiasm that would be shown if she were to remain permanently. In her district or field work she is under the careful guidance and instruction of her head nurse and supervisor. Nurses accepted for this short course must agree to remain through the three months, unless physically incapacitated. Class instruction is given once a week. A talk upon a given subject on one week is followed on the next by a visit of inspection to some institution, the visit being intended to illustrate the talk. During July, August, and September there is no regular class instruction, but each week a trip is planned to some point of interest. This is often one of the Fresh Air institutions, with which New York is so abundantly supplied. Detailed information may be obtained from Miss Jane E. Hitchcock, R.N., 265 Henry Street, New York City.

The fourth annual report of the Jamestown Visiting Nurse Association has recently been issued in book form. This is the association that originated the "Red Letter Day" for collecting funds for its work, and the last day was a very successful one, over \$1700 being received. A second nurse has been necessary, and Myra Rogers entered the work in

January to help Selma E. Lincoln, who has been the Jamestown visiting nurse for four years. In her all too brief report Miss Lincoln mentions the dental work and co-operation of local dentists. This work is not yet sufficiently emphasized by all public health nursing associations, but the day is dawning when neglected teeth will share the odium now spent wholly on tonsils, and we will realize how useless it is to buy medicines or plan long-continued treatment for "chronic" patients whose teeth are not in good condition. Once the teeth are properly attended to, many patients may be discharged to their own devices—"cured." The Jamestown Visiting Nurse Association has become a corporate member of the National Association for Public Health Nursing.

COLORADO.—The University of Colorado is offering a two years' course in preparation for social service and also a preparatory course for nurses, which is indorsed by the State Board of Registration. Pupils who take this course will not be required to serve so long a period in the hospital.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Another growing visiting nurse association that has successfully tried to raise funds for the work by a "Red Letter Day" is the Lillian Light Memorial Association of Lebanon. In its first published annual report, which covers the work of twenty months, special mention is made by the president of the good work of the visiting nurse, Anna L. McCoy, R.N.

The H. C. Frick Coke Company is employing nurses to work among the miners and their families in the Fayette and Westmoreland fields. Two nurses have already started the work in Hecla No. 1 and Lambert plants, and others will soon be appointed. Prevention and education is the keynote of their work, which lies largely among the foreign born.

UTAH.—Two school nurses, Ellen Lees and Carrie Roberts, have been appointed to work in connection with the Board of Health physicians in the public schools of Salt Lake City. Elizabeth Shellabarger, formerly chief nurse of the Denver Visiting Nurse Association staff, has accepted the superintendency of St. Mark's Hospital Training School for Nurses.

MICHIGAN.—The first annual report of the visiting nurse for St. Joseph, Henrietta M. Schoenbeck, R.N., proves the interest of the citizens in the work, for the town now feels that it can never again get along without a nurse. Although the town is scattered and has but one street car line, 1224 calls were made to 110 patients.

ILLINOIS (Chicago).—The baby tents of the Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund will again be under the supervision of the Visiting Nurse Association, Mrs. M. Pearl Ringland being tent supervisor. Alma Atzel, of the visiting nurse staff, has been granted leave of absence for the

summer, and is roughing it on her claim in Three Forks, Montana. Any tired nurse, who likes country life and co-operative housekeeping on a Montana ranch, is invited to correspond with Miss Atzel at Three Forks.

WISCONSIN.—The Green Bay Visiting Nurse Association recently realized nearly \$800 from two benefit performances of the musical play "The Isle of Years Ago." An interesting feature of the programme distributed on both evenings was that two columns in the advertising section were devoted to a brief history of the Visiting Nurse Association, and a whole page article (the space being paid for by friends) explained the routine and the work of the Open Air School for pre-tuberculous children. The school was opened in April, 1912, and for seven months was supported jointly by the Woman's Club and the Board of Education. The visiting nurse called at the school weekly to weigh the children, and visited their homes to instruct their parents. After this trial, the Board of Education, by a unanimous vote, established the Green Bay Open Air School as a permanent department of the public school system. Myra Kimball, R.N., is the visiting nurse.